

2026 Missouri Student Survey

Missouri Middle and High School Data

	2026 Missouri 6-12 N = 1326	2026 Missouri 6-8 N = 750	2026 Missouri 9-12 N = 572
Approximate Sample Size =			
<u>Demographics (% "yes" answer)</u>	%	%	%
Grade level. 6th Grade	20.5%	44.6%	0.0%
Grade level. 7th Grade	13.9%	30.2%	0.0%
Grade level. 8th Grade	11.6%	25.2%	0.0%
Grade level. 9th Grade	12.9%	0.0%	23.8%
Grade level. 10th Grade	13.2%	0.0%	24.4%
Grade level. 11th Grade	14.8%	0.0%	27.3%
Grade level. 12th Grade	13.3%	0.0%	24.5%
Male	50.1%	51.3%	49.3%
Hispanic or Latino	7.7%	8.8%	6.6%
Race: Black or African American	16.6%	26.8%	8.1%
Race: White	72.3%	62.0%	81.0%
Race: Other*	11.0%	11.1%	10.9%

**Multiracial, American Indian/ Alaskan Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian/PI, and other.*

Note: Small numbers of students at the school level can make comparisons harder to interpret. Please review the demographic information above, as large differences—especially changes in grade-level percentages—can affect the results in this report. As a result, some differences may reflect who was included in the sample rather than true differences in the overall population.

<u>Substances: Past 30 Days (% "1 or more" answer)</u>	6th-12th	6th-8th	9th-12th
Used tobacco (cigarettes or chew)	3.6%	2.1%	4.8%
Used vapes / electronic cigarettes	8.4%	5.4%	10.9%
Used hookahs or water pipes	0.6%	0.3%	0.8%
Used alcohol	6.6%	2.8%	9.8%
Used marijuana	3.3%	1.2%	5.1%
Used inhalants	0.7%	0.9%	0.6%
Used Rx not prescribed for you by a doctor	1.2%	1.3%	1.2%
Used `OTC` to get high	1.1%	1.4%	0.9%

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<u>Substances: Ever in your life (% "1 or more" answer)</u>	%	%	%
Used `club drugs` such as ecstasy	0.3%	0.6%	0.0%
Used cocaine or `crack`	0.2%	0.4%	0.0%
Used heroin or `smack`	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Used hallucinogens such as LSD, PCP, or magic mushrooms	1.1%	0.6%	1.6%
Used methamphetamine (meth, crank, crystal, ice)	0.4%	0.8%	0.0%
<u>Parents' perception of wrongness (% wrong + very wrong)</u>	6th-12th	6th-8th	9th-12th
Parents feel it would be 'wrong' or 'very wrong' to smoke tobacco	95.4%	95.6%	95.4%
Parents feel it would be 'wrong' or 'very wrong' to take one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage nearly every day	96.8%	96.5%	97.2%
Parents feel it would be 'wrong' or 'very wrong' to smoke marijuana once or twice a week	95.4%	97.6%	93.7%
Parents feel it would be 'wrong' or 'very wrong' to use Rx drugs that have not been prescribed to you	96.4%	97.1%	95.9%
Parents feel it would be 'wrong' or 'very wrong' to vape	95.5%	95.5%	95.5%
<u>Friends' perception of wrongness (% wrong + very wrong)</u>	6th-12th	6th-8th	9th-12th
Friends feel it would be 'wrong' or 'very wrong' to smoke cigarettes	84.4%	88.5%	81.2%
Friends feel it would be 'wrong' or 'very wrong' to take one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage nearly every day	84.8%	89.5%	81.0%
Friends feel it would be 'wrong' or 'very wrong' to smoke marijuana	81.0%	88.3%	75.1%
Friends feel it would be 'wrong' or 'very wrong' to use Rx drugs that have not been prescribed to you	89.3%	89.9%	88.9%
Friends feel it would be 'wrong' or 'very wrong' to vape	76.2%	80.4%	72.9%
<u>Friends' perception of coolness (% pretty cool + very cool)</u>	6th-12th	6th-8th	9th-12th
Peers believe someone your age would be 'pretty cool' or 'very cool' if they smoked cigarettes	5.6%	4.0%	6.7%
Peers believe someone your age would be 'pretty cool' or 'very cool' if they used vapes	11.0%	8.4%	13.0%
Peers believe someone your age would be 'pretty cool' or 'very cool' if they drank alcohol	12.2%	5.0%	18.0%
Peers believe someone your age would be 'pretty cool' or 'very cool' if they smoked marijuana	10.7%	7.7%	13.0%

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<u>Behavior: Last 30 Days (% "1 or more" answer)</u>	%	%	%
Missed whole day(s) of school because you skipped or cut	35.5%	37.1%	33.9%
Did not go to school because you felt you would be unsafe at school or on your way to or from school	7.5%	11.2%	4.4%
Rode with someone who was drinking alcohol	10.5%	12.2%	9.0%
<u>Behavior: Last 3 Months (% "1 or more" answer)</u>	6th-12th	6th-8th	9th-12th
Spread mean rumors or lies about other kids at school	15.5%	19.8%	11.7%
Posted something online or sent a text that might embarrass or hurt another student	13.5%	15.1%	11.9%
Made fun of other people	42.6%	41.9%	43.2%
Hit, shoved or pushed another student and were not just fooling around	13.7%	21.4%	7.3%
<u>Behavior: Last 12 Months (% "1 or more" answer)</u>	6th-12th	6th-8th	9th-12th
Were in a physical fight	17.6%	27.2%	9.5%
Been threatened or injured with a weapon on school property	6.4%	7.3%	5.7%
Seriously considered suicide	10.5%	11.2%	9.9%
Planned suicide	7.7%	8.9%	6.6%
Attempted suicide	6.1%	7.1%	5.1%
<u>Depression Scale (% often or always in Past Month)</u>	6th-12th	6th-8th	9th-12th
Were very sad	19.5%	20.6%	18.5%
Were grouchy or irritable, or in a bad mood	27.9%	29.7%	26.4%
Felt hopeless about the future	12.3%	10.6%	13.7%
Felt like not eating or eating more than usual	21.7%	20.4%	22.8%
Felt like sleeping a lot more or a lot less than usual	25.2%	24.7%	25.6%
Had difficulty concentrating on school work	28.8%	26.8%	30.3%
<u>Resiliency (% agree + strongly agree)</u>	6th-12th	6th-8th	9th-12th
Feels like they know where in the community to get help	77.0%	76.8%	77.4%
Feels optimistic about the future	74.5%	71.1%	77.4%
Feels they handle stress in a healthy way	65.7%	65.0%	66.6%
Feels they have adults in their life to turn to when things feel overwhelming	77.7%	76.7%	78.8%

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<u>Anxiety Scale (% often or always in Past Month) - New in 2026</u>	%	%	%
Hard to focus	22.1%	21.9%	22.1%
Skipped event or left early	8.1%	6.9%	9.0%
Hard to make choices or finish tasks	21.1%	20.3%	21.7%
<u>Perception of Availability (% very easy + sort of easy)</u>	6th-12th	6th-8th	9th-12th
'Very' or 'sort of easy' to get cigarettes	22.5%	12.3%	30.9%
'Very' or 'sort of easy' to get e-cigarettes	35.0%	21.5%	46.1%
'Very' or 'sort of easy' to get alcohol	35.4%	21.7%	46.7%
'Very' or 'sort of easy' to get marijuana	23.9%	12.8%	33.0%
'Very' or 'sort of easy' to get Rx drugs that have not been prescribed to them	14.5%	11.3%	17.0%
<u>Perception of Harm (% slight risk + no risk at all)</u>	6th-12th	6th-8th	9th-12th
'No' or 'slight risk' if they smoke e-cigarettes	26.6%	23.2%	29.1%
'No' or 'slight risk' if they smoke one or more packs of cigarettes / day	13.9%	15.4%	12.5%
'No' or 'slight risk' if they drink alcohol (no dosage specified)	33.9%	30.3%	36.5%
'No' or 'slight risk' if they take one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage nearly every day	24.0%	25.8%	22.4%
'No' or 'slight risk' if they have 5+ drinks, once or twice a week	15.6%	18.1%	13.3%
'No' or 'slight risk' if they smoke marijuana once or twice a week	23.9%	16.1%	30.2%
'No' or 'slight risk' if they use any other illegal drugs or club drugs	8.4%	11.7%	5.6%
'No' or 'slight risk' if they use synthetic drugs	15.4%	18.1%	13.0%
'No' or 'slight risk' if they use Cold / Cough Medicines or OTC medicines to get high	18.9%	22.1%	16.1%
'No' or 'slight risk' if they use Rx drugs that have not been prescribed to them	10.6%	12.3%	8.9%

THANK YOU!

Your Participation in the Missouri Student Survey is appreciated!
Talk to your local Prevention Resource Center for next steps!

These reports contain select questions. For more information, see your full report. If you need assistance locating this report, contact Susan.Bradford@mimh.edu. State and county level data will be available at <https://dmh.mo.gov/behavioral-health/missouri-student-survey> by September 2026.